



## **Staff Report**

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### **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FILING OF THE SAFE ROUTES TO TRANSIT GRANT APPLICATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$750,000 FOR THE U.S. HIGHWAY 101 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PROJECT, CITY CONTRACT NUMBER 433**

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

#### **Summary**

Staff is seeking approval from City Council to apply for the Safe Routes to Transit (SR2T) grant in the amount of \$750,000 to fund construction of the U.S. Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project. The Transportation and Land Use Coalition (TALC) and the East Bay Bicycle Coalition (EBBC) are administering this program with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). The application is due by April 3, 2007.

#### **Background**

Construction of a bicycle and pedestrian bridge over U.S. Highway 101 is one of the City's priority projects. The project design is now complete and the City will be ready to invite bids for construction as soon as it obtains sufficient funding commitments. Public Works projects of this size are typically funded from several sources, drawing primarily from federal and state grants. The City's strategy for this project is to identify all appropriate grant opportunities and apply for grants as they become available. The City has identified \$400,000 of Park Improvement funds, but will not commit these funds until such time as it accumulates sufficient grant funding to complete the project.

The current estimate for the bicycle and pedestrian bridge is \$5.5 million for construction and construction management services. The City has secured the following funding:

<u>Secured Funding Sources</u>	<u>Amount</u>
• Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) FY 01/02	\$ 585,000
• Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)	\$2,600,000
• City funds (Park Improvement funds)	\$ 400,000
Total	\$3,585,000

<u>Potential Additional Funding Sources</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Status</u>
• Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) FY 06/07	\$1,250,000	Application Pending
• Safe Routes To Transit (SR2T) FY 07/08	\$ 750,000	Application due 4/3/07
• Reauthorized Measure A Bike Bridge Project	TBD	Not available until FY08
Total		\$2,000,000

Staff is watching for other funding opportunities and will recommend applying for them when they become available.

### **Discussion**

TALC has announced that SR2T funds are available for public agencies in the nine Bay Area counties. Funding for this program comes from Regional Measure 2 (RM2), which raised tolls on state-owned bridges to \$3 and was approved by voters in 2004. Total funding available for this cycle is \$4.1 million. The next funding cycle is in fiscal year 2009-10.

SR2T funds are disbursed on a competitive basis to projects that improve bicycle and pedestrian access in close proximity to regional transit facilities. There is a minimum grant award amount of \$100,000 for capital projects but no established maximum amount. For capital projects with only one sponsoring agency, it is strongly encouraged to limit the funding request to \$750,000. No local match or resolution is needed to be submitted with the application. However, if a project is selected, an authorizing resolution is subsequently required.

Staff attended a public presentation to gather information regarding grant money obligation and project completion schedule. Belmont's Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge is a strong candidate for this grant because the bikeway improvement spanning U.S. Highway 101 encourages commuters to utilize mass transit and the Ralston station as a hub for Caltrain and Samtrans. The deadline for application to TALC is April 3, 2007. Upon completion of the evaluation by the SR2T Advisory Committee, the MTC Board will award grants to deserving projects in September 2007. Once a project is awarded funding, the project has three years to complete construction.

### **General Plan/Vision Statement**

No impact.

### **Fiscal Impact**

There is no direct fiscal impact from Council's approval of the SR2T grant application. If MTC approves the application, funding will be budgeted for the project in a future fiscal year. Once the City has obtained sufficient grant funding, staff will recommend that the City commit its own

resources for construction of the project. The SR2T grant will be distributed on a reimbursement basis for the City's cost.

**Public Contact**

The City Council meeting agenda was posted.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works to submit an application for the Safe Routes to Transit (SR2T) grant in the amount of \$750,000.

**Alternatives**

1. Take no action.
2. Refer back to staff for further information.

**Attachments**

- A. Resolution

Respectfully submitted,

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Bennett Chun, P.E.  
Associate Engineer

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Raymond E. Davis III, PE, PTOE  
Director of Public Works

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Jack R. Crist  
City Manager

Staff contact:  
Ray Davis  
Director of Public Works  
(650) 595-7459  
rdavis@belmont.gov

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT APPROVING  
THE FILING OF THE SAFE ROUTES TO TRANSIT GRANT APPLICATION IN THE  
AMOUNT OF \$750,000 FOR THE U.S. HIGHWAY 101 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN  
BRIDGE PROJECT, CITY CONTRACT NUMBER 433**

**WHEREAS**, the City's funding strategy is to seek out and apply for grant funding as it becomes available to construct City Contract Number 433 – U.S. Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge project; and,

**WHEREAS**, Regional Measure 2 (RM2) allocates funds to Safe Routes to Transit Program (SR2T) toward projects that improve access and safety for bicyclist and pedestrians to and from regional transit stations; and,

**WHEREAS**, the encouraged funding request is \$750,000 for capital projects with only one sponsoring agency; and,

**WHEREAS**, the SR2T application is due to Transportation and Land Use Coalition (TALC) by April 3, 2007; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City must expend the awarded funds by October 2010; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Belmont is not required to provide a local match in order to be eligible for the SR2T grant.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Belmont does authorize the Director of Public Works to submit an application for the Safe Routes to Transit grant for City Contract Number 433 – U.S. Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project.

\* \* \* \* \*

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Belmont at a regular meeting thereof held on March 13, 2007 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

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MAYOR of the City of Belmont